

ALEXANDER INKSON M'CONNOCHIE.

ALEXANDER INKSON M'CONNOCHIE died at Hendon Way, Cricklewood, London, on January 7, 1936, at the advanced age of eighty-six. Mr M'Connochie was born at Rothies, Morayshire, in 1850, and after attending school at Inchberry, and subsequently at Oyne, Aberdeenshire, he served his apprenticeship in a law office in Aberdeen, and eventually commenced business there as an Accountant and Law Stationer. After spending a few years in Glasgow, he made London his permanent residence.

Mr M'Connochie became an Associate member of the Society of Accountants in England in 1877, which was merged in the "Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales" by Royal Charter in 1880. Thereupon, Mr M'Connochie became an Associate (A.C.A.) of the Institute of C.A.'s in England and Wales in 1880, and continued so until the date of his death, but he was not a member of a Scottish C.A. body.

He was one of the oldest and best-known authorities on the Highland hills, and on deer and deer forests.

His great interests were in the hills, and he walked across the Highlands from sea to sea when he was only about sixteen. He was essentially a hill-walker; rock-climbing and the art of mountaineering as understood to-day, having never appealed to him. He was a most excellent companion for arranging a mountain expedition, leaving nothing forgotten down to the minutest detail of the commissariat.

He was a mine of information, and most generous in his help to a little band of English friends in their various raids into the Cairngorm country and other regions. It was a great privilege to be one of his many friends and to accompany him on some memorable tramps up the glens and mountains north of the Caledonian Canal and elsewhere. Though so much the senior, he was the one to make the pace, and his endurance was astonishing, down to a much more recent date. Less than twenty years ago, in Cowal, he was

out on the hills with a party in tempestuous weather, and for many hours they were drenched to the skin, without the least chance of shelter. Far from wanting to hurry home, he pushed on to an eyrie which was visited and photographed, and then to a reserve eyrie not then occupied by the birds. Next day he was as game as ever.

He had written several very accurate and informative books, amongst others "Bennachie," "Ben Macdhuil and His Neighbours," "Lochnagar" (1891), "Deeside," "The Royal Dee," "Donside"; and also three very interesting books entitled "The Deer and Deer Forests of Scotland" (historical, descriptive, and sporting, 1923), "Deer-Stalking in Scotland" (1924), and "Deer Forest Life" (1932).

We hope that a book, as yet unpublished, to be called "Birds in Deer Forests," may still be issued to the public.

Mr M'Connochie was an enthusiastic member of the Cairngorm Club, having been Honorary Secretary and Editor from 1893 to 1911. He was not a member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, but he took a keen interest in all its doings.

WILLIAM GARDEN.